

IN REPORT INFORMATION CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY **Rumania** 25X1

SUBJECT **The Port of Constanta** 25X1

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS

1. To enter the port, true course 355 was followed up to the first buoy and at 1.5 miles from the second buoy, by following true course 265, the ship headed straight for the port entrance.
2. While at anchor outside the harbor from 2215 hours of 5 May to 0030 hours of 6 May, [redacted] on the strip of land southwest of Constanta, at about two miles from the coast, there was gunnery practice with tracer bullets (small arms and machine guns). The machine gun fire was in spurts of ten bullets, but on occasion they also fired single shots. The tracer bullets were of a red-yellow-green color; often the three colors converged on a point about one kilometer from the point of origin and at another point about two kilometers up in the air. It was noticed that the bullets became luminous at about 150 to 180 meters from the point where they were actually being fired. The zone in which this gunnery practice was taking place was comprised in the following coordinates: 44°09'30" North latitude and 28°48' East longitude.
3. [redacted] ship took on the pilot who was escorted by an armed guard and proceeded to enter the port, casting anchors in front of the grain elevators at 0100 hours. At 0830 hours, the ship was cleared by the medical authorities. At 1000 hours the ship was visited by a commission of port authorities divided as follows: two customs officials in civilian clothing who place the ship's store, the ship's binoculars, cameras and radio under seal; two officers with three stars on their epaulettes; eight non-coms and soldiers all dressed in fatigues who checked the ship's quarters; one port official and one Inflow employee.
4. The visit on the part of the above-mentioned authorities ended at 1100 hours at which time the ship moved to mooring position No. 37 for refueling operations. These operations began at 1400 hours and ended at 1700 hours. While at this position, [redacted] the pier is in very good condition and that directly in front of mooring position No. 37 there is a small, white house equipped with a telephone. The white house was

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#.")

S-E-C-R-E-T

- 2 -

25X1

25X1

accessible only to the military guard on patrol along the pier. Also noticed on the same pier were a large number of iron drums probably filled with bitumen.

5. After refueling, the ship moved from mooring position No. 37 to mooring position No. 34. Actual loading operations began at 0800 on 7 May 1955. On the dock there were various piles of lumber and various little huts housing the offices of the personnel checking incoming and outgoing lumber. The dock is fully efficient on the south side. Its north side is still damaged from the war.

6. While in port, [] the following freighters: (see sketch)

25X1

- a. Russian tanker, AWIASAA, equipped with radar; new construction; displacement about 17,000 to 18,000 tons. It arrived the morning of 6 May and left on 7 May at 1700 hours after having taken on a cargo of crude oil.

- b. [] AZULE, which had been in port prior to arrival of [] which left on 6 May.

25X1

- c. [] OTIS, which had been in port prior to arrival of [] and which left on 6 May.

- d. [] freighter, ERECLI, which was in port prior to arrival of [] and which left on 8 May with a cargo of cement in paper bags.

25X1

- e. [] freighter, ELLEN HUGO STIMES [] a full cargo of sugar which was discharged. Later the freighter took on a cargo of wheat at position e-1 on the attached sketch.

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- f. [] freighter, GENNARO IEVOLI, which left for Beirut with a cargo of lumber.

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- g. [] freighter, ROSALBA (g-1, g-2, g-3), which arrived on 6 May and left on 12 May with a cargo of lumber for Naples, Italy.

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- h. [] freighter, TRIANIA, which had been in port prior to arrival of [] ship and which sailed on 11 May. [] ship overtook the freighter [] and followed its same course up to the island of Tedudos, at which point the [] freighter directed its course towards Lero.

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- i. [] freighter, REGOLO, which arrived on 7 May, took on a cargo of corn [] and left on 10 May.

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- j. Rumanian freighter, ARDEAL, displacement about 16-18,000 tons; old ship idle in port.

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- k. Passenger ship of unknown flag observed [] prior to their landing. Its displacement was estimated at about 10,000 tons. The passenger ship left the morning after arrival. [] it was a Russian passenger ship and that it had come from Odessa. The ultimate destination was not learned.

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- l. [] freighter of about 2,000 tons displacement loaded with cement.

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- m. Floating drydock occupied by a freighter of about 2,000 tons undergoing repairs. On one side of the drydock, there were two destroyers also undergoing repairs.

25X1

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

S-E-C-R-E-T

- 3 -

25X1

25X1

- n. Romanian training ship, MIRCEA, which sailed at 0800 of 9 May and returned that same evening.
- o. Military Zone: On entering the port, [] two Romanian destroyers at anchor and three corvettes. These ships sailed during the night of 5-6 May and, during the morning of 6 May, shots could be heard outside of Constanta harbor indicating that the ships were engaging in gunnery practice.
- p. Work on the installation of six cranes located on the dock north of the port in front of the new warehouses has been completed. One of these cranes was being used to lay new railroad tracks along the dock.
- q. The canal running underground and in front of the new warehouses up to the power station has been completed and covered. It has not been possible to ascertain the purpose of this canal.
- r. New warehouse under construction.
- s. Portion of dock under repair.
- t. In back of the power station are two large, underground storage tanks for naphtha. The tanks have a diameter of about twenty meters and rise above ground for about 50 centimeters.
7. The two destroyers mentioned in paragraph 6-o [] and were actually seen outside of Constanta harbor on 6 May engaged in gunnery practice. On the same date, the three corvettes were seen steaming out to the open sea at an estimated speed of twelve knots. The corvettes were armed with one cannon forward (estimated caliber, 76mm) and various machine guns. The estimated length of the craft was 40 meters and the displacement was not greater than 200 tons. The firing distance between the destroyers and the target was estimated at two miles. Target practice for machine gun fire was conducted at a range of three-quarters of a mile.
8. General observations: It is reported that, both in the Romanian Navy and the Romanian Army, there are Soviet officers and men who wear Romanian uniforms.

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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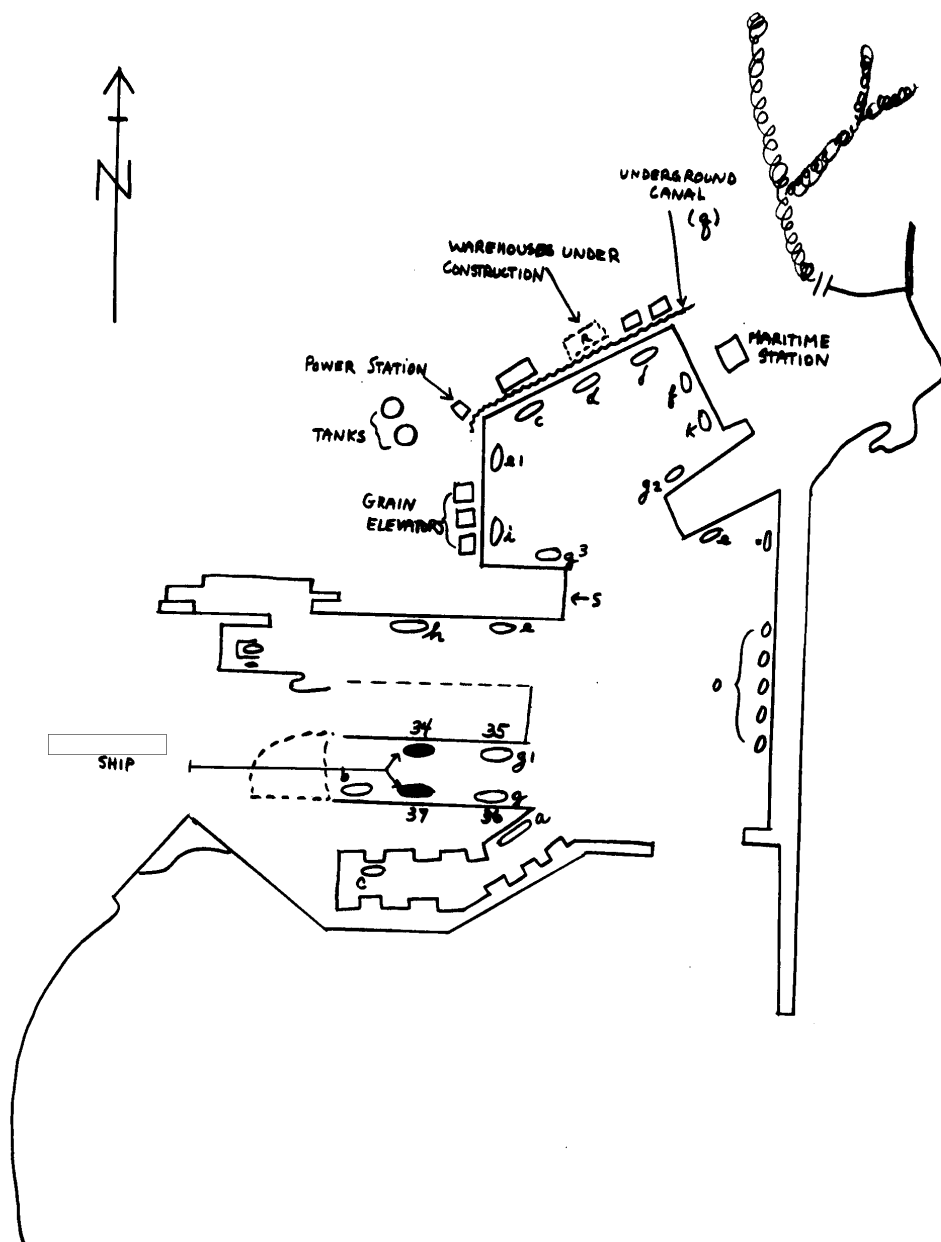
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25X1

- 4 -

25X1

PORT OF CONSTANTA



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